



The Secretary of Energy  
Washington, DC 20585

January 19, 2001

MEMORANDUM FOR HEADS OF ALL DEPARTMENTAL ELEMENTS

FROM: BILL RICHARDSON *Bill Richardson*  
SUBJECT: Internal Reuse and Recycling at Department of Energy Facilities

On July 13, 2000, I challenged the Department to find creative ways to reuse and recycle materials among our sites. I am encouraged by Departmental actions taken to date to meet this challenge.

The Department is committed to deploying internal reuse and recycling options, when such activities are cost effective, and protective of workers, the public, and the environment. The Department of Energy (DOE) sites, in coordination with the DOE National Center for Excellence in Metal Recycle (NMR), are responsible for implementing a Department-wide program to internally reuse and recycle materials and equipment from radiological areas. I expect all Department employees to utilize tools such as the Material Exchange (<http://wastenot.er.doe.gov/doc/matex>) and the Federal Property Management System and also to work with field pollution prevention coordinators, the NMR, and property management staff to foster internal reuse and recycling.

I am pleased to report that a number of efforts are already underway that will provide the Department with long-term internal reuse and recycling alternatives in lieu of the disposal of valuable resources.

- I. Both the Office of Energy Efficiency (EE) and EM responded to my request that the Department quickly evaluate various electric furnace technologies that might provide cost-effective and safe internal recycling opportunities for large quantities of the Department's surplus metal inventories taken from radiological areas. While the initial analysis does not warrant significant DOE investment in large scale electric furnace metal-melt technologies, a number of innovative and commercially viable recycling opportunities were identified during the study. Further evaluations of commercial solutions for metal and equipment reuse and recycling are being conducted (Terry Plummer, EM-22, 301-903-7176).



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